

**Senate File 2229 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2229

BY GRONSTAL

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act modifying the periods of time to bring civil and  
2 criminal actions relating to the sexual abuse of minors.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 614.8, subsection 2, Code 2011, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. Except as provided in section 614.1, subsection 9, or  
4 section 614.8A, the times limited for actions in this chapter,  
5 or chapter 216, 669, or 670, except those brought for penalties  
6 and forfeitures, are extended in favor of minors, so that they  
7 shall have one year from and after attainment of majority  
8 within which to file a complaint pursuant to chapter 216, to  
9 make a claim pursuant to chapter 669, or to otherwise commence  
10 an action.

11 Sec. 2. Section 614.8A, Code 2011, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 **614.8A Damages Commencement of action for minor or child**  
14 **sexual abuse — time limitation.**

15 1. Notwithstanding section 614.8, subsection 2, and the  
16 times limited for actions in this chapter, the time to file an  
17 action relating to sexual abuse which occurred when the injured  
18 person was a minor, is extended ten years beyond the minor's  
19 attainment of eighteen years of age.

20 2. An In addition to the extension of time provided in  
21 subsection 1, an action for damages for injury suffered as a  
22 result of sexual abuse which occurred when the injured person  
23 was a child, but not discovered until after the injured person  
24 is of the age of majority, shall be brought within ~~four~~ ten  
25 years from the time of discovery by the injured party of both  
26 the injury and the causal relationship between the injury and  
27 the sexual abuse.

28 Sec. 3. Section 802.2, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
29 to read as follows:

30 1. An information or indictment for sexual abuse in the  
31 first, second, or third degree committed on or with a person  
32 who is under the age of eighteen years shall be found within  
33 ~~ten~~ twenty years after the person upon whom the offense is  
34 committed attains eighteen years of age, or if the person  
35 against whom the information or indictment is sought is

1 identified through the use of a DNA profile, an information or  
2 indictment shall be found within three years from the date the  
3 person is identified by the person's DNA profile, whichever is  
4 later.

5

EXPLANATION

6 This bill modifies the periods of time to bring civil and  
7 criminal actions relating to the sexual abuse of minors.

8 Under the bill, the time for filing a civil action relating  
9 to sexual abuse which occurred when the injured person was  
10 a minor is extended from one year after the attainment of  
11 majority to 10 years after the attainment of majority.

12 The bill also provides that a civil action for damages  
13 relating to sexual abuse which occurred when the injured party  
14 was a child under 14 years of age, shall be brought within 10  
15 years from the time of the discovery of both the injury and the  
16 causal relationship between the injury and the sexual abuse.  
17 Current law specifies such an action shall be brought within  
18 four years of the time of discovery of both the injury and the  
19 causal relationship between the injury and the sexual abuse.

20 The bill also specifies that a criminal information  
21 or indictment for sexual abuse in the first, second, or  
22 third degree committed on or with a person under the age of  
23 18 shall be found within 20 years of the sexually abused  
24 person attaining 18 years of age. Current law specifies the  
25 indictment or information for such sexual abuse be found within  
26 10 years of the sexually abused person attaining 18 years of  
27 age.